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February 6, 2004

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Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
State of Louisiana
Post Office Box 94275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9275

RE: HEARING APPLICATION
D Sand, Reservoir A
Tremont Field
Lincoln Parish, Louisiana
Our File No. 360012.0032

Dear Sir:

On behalf of O'BRIEN OPERATING COMPANY, application is hereby made for a public hearing to receive evidence concerning the issuance of an order pertaining to the following matters relating to the D Sand, Reservoir A, in the Tremont Field, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana:

1. To establish rules and regulations and to create two (2) drilling and production units (to be designated as D RA SUB and D RA SUC) for the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the D Sand, Reservoir A, in the Tremont Field, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the plat attached hereto.
2. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases, and other property interests within each of the proposed units, with each tract sharing in unit production on a surface acreage basis of participation.
3. To designate O'Brien Operating Company as unit operator and the O'Brien Operating Company - Harmon No. 1 Well as the unit well for the proposed D RA SUC.
4. To provide that future wells drilled to, permitted for or completed in the D Sand, Reservoir A, whether within or outside the units created hereby, shall be located in accordance with Statewide Order No. 29-E.
5. To consider such other matters as may be appropriate and justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The D Sand, Reservoir A, in the Tremont Field, Lincoln Parish, Louisiana, is fully defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 594-F, effective May 1, 1984.

Pertinent data regarding this application will be available for inspection at the offices of O'Brien Operating Company, 330 Marshall Street, Suite 700, Shreveport, Louisiana 71101. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Morgan O'Brien (318)425-8885, during normal business hours, or write Mr. O'Brien at the above address, in order to arrange a time and date for such inspection. Copies of such pertinent data can be obtained at the expense of the requesting party.

A list of the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties (as defined in the Rules of Procedure) is attached and a copy of this application, with the attached plat, is being sent to each of such persons. A reasonable effort has been made to determine that the enclosed list includes all of the persons required by the Rules of Procedure. The Applicant will also arrange for mailing, posting and publication of the legal notice of this hearing in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

A Pre-Application Conference was held at the offices of Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts, 15th Floor Conference Room, Bank One Tower, 400 Texas Street, Shreveport, Louisiana, on February 4, at 11:00 a.m. In addition to the Applicant's representatives, said conference was attended by Gene Huggs, representing Huggs, Inc. Following a presentation by Applicant's representatives as to the geological and other bases for its proposal, a general discussion ensued. Huggs, Inc. objected to Applicant's proposal due to the fact that units created for the Cotton Valley D Sand in the North Carleton Field, specifically CV D SUD and CV D SUF, overlapped into Tremont Field and included the E/2 of Applicant's originally proposed CV D SU C and the three (3) proposed units did not fit the existing pattern of units created for other sands in the Tremont Field.

A compromise was agreed to between O'Brien and Huggs, which proposes two (2) units (D RA SUB and D RA SUC) as an extension of the existing unit pattern for the D Sand, RA in the Tremont Field and excludes the acreage in existing units for North Carleton field. A revised unit plat is attached hereto. Also, the definition of the D Sand, Reservoir A, in the Tremont Field, is identical to the definition which Applicant had proposed for the Cotton Valley D Sand, Reservoir B, in its Harmon No. 1 Well. Therefore, the units will be included as part of the D Sand, Reservoir A, not Reservoir B, and the definition in Order No. 594-F will be utilized for the revised units.

A check in the amount of \$755.00 payable to the Commissioner of Conservation is enclosed herewith as the statutory fee for holding the requested hearing.

Commissioner of Conservation

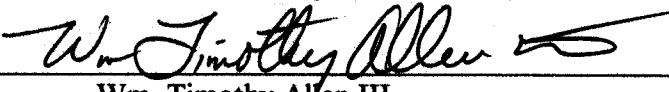
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This application is being filed in duplicate, and a copy hereof is being sent to Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport District Manager of the Office of Conservation and to each Interested Owner, Represented Party and Interested Party whose name is shown on the attached list.

Very truly yours,

BLANCHARD, WALKER, O'QUIN & ROBERTS

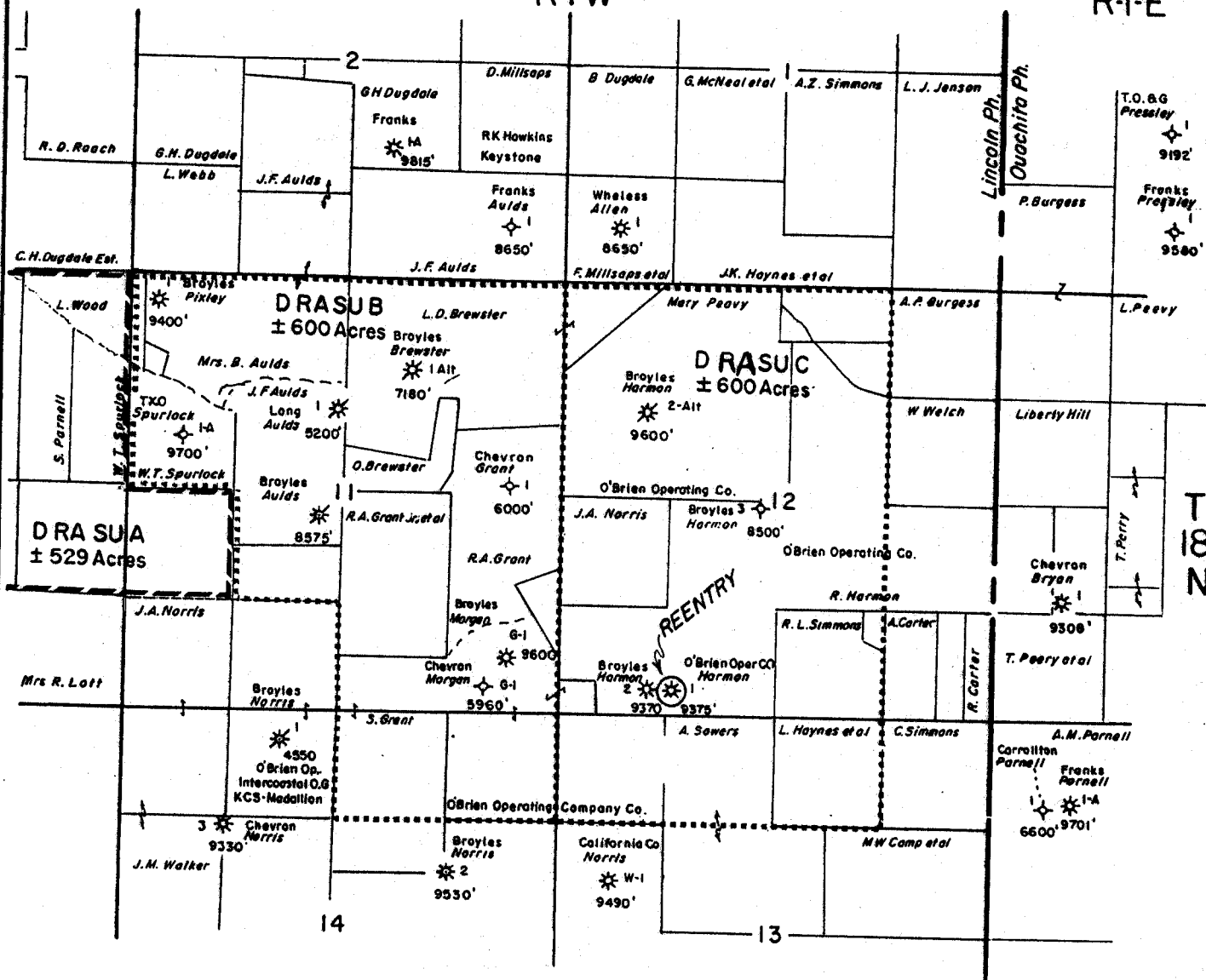
By: 
Wm. Timothy Allen III
Attorneys for O'Brien Operating Company

WTAIII:bp
Enclosures

- cc: Mr. James C. Broussard, District Manager
Office of Conservation, Shreveport, La. (w/enclosures)
- cc: Interested Owners, Represented Parties
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plat only)

R-I-W

R-I-E



⊛ PROPOSED UNIT WELL

----- PROPOSED DRA SAND UNITS

----- EXISTING DRA SAND UNIT

DOCKET NO

EXHIBIT NO

O'BRIEN OPERATING COMPANY
PROPOSED DRA SAND UNITS

TREMONT FIELD
LINCOLN PARISH, LA.

0' 2000' 4000' 1 Mi.